



# Fuelwood Information

## Eldorado National Forest

To cut or gather your own firewood on the Eldorado National Forest, you will need to purchase a Fuelwood permit. Any wood removed/transported from national forest land to private property must have a fuelwood permit. You will usually have to search out wood locations yourself.

### What to Know

- ⇒ **Cost:** \$15 per cord. Cash, credit cards, and checks are accepted. The permit is non-transferable and non-refundable.
- ⇒ **Quantity:** Minimum 2 cords.
- ⇒ **Season:** Year-round. Permit expires on December 31 of the year purchased.
- ⇒ **Size limit:** Standing dead trees less than 10 inches at eye level for all hardwood species (oak) and 20" in diameter at eye level for all softwood species (pine, fir, cedar) can be cut otherwise look for dead and downed wood. There is no cutting of standing dead trees from December 1st through March 31st.
- ⇒ **Project Activity Level (PAL):** To check for current level you can either call 530-295-5699 or check this link. No fuelwood cutting is allowed at PAL level "Ev" or "E".
- ⇒ **Requirements:** A properly operating spark arrester system and a working fire extinguisher or long handled shovel are required.
- ⇒ **Third Party:** Permittee may authorize a third party to cut and haul fuelwood for the permittee in his/her absence. This permit and the written Third Party authorization must be in the cutter's possession at all times when cutting or transporting wood obtained under this permit. The Third Party authorization may be obtained where fuelwood permits are issued.
- ⇒ The permit does not authorize camping or any other activity.

### Road Travel and Woodcutting

- ⇒ **Access:** Vehicle use on roads is allowed only on the routes shown on the Motor Vehicle Use Map issued with your permit. Parking along roads designated or authorized for public travel is permitted within one vehicle length from the edge of the road surface.
- ⇒ **Woodcutting Areas:** Periodically throughout the woodcutting season the Eldorado National Forest may identify concentrations of fuelwood not accessible from the roads designated on your Motor Vehicle Use Map. In order to facilitate the removal of fuelwood from these identified areas, Ranger Districts may establish Fuelwood Cutting Areas. As these areas are established, routes will be signed and maps can be obtained from Ranger District Offices or from the Eldorado National Forest website.
- ⇒ **Seasonal Road Closure:** During the winter most of the forest is under snow and very little area is accessible. All dirt roads and trails are closed to motor vehicle use between January 1 and March 31. The Seasonal Closure may be longer if roads or trails are wet and susceptible to damage. This closure is intended to protect water quality and prevent rutting and damage to these roads and trails. These closure orders will supersede any road use authorized by your permit.
- ⇒ **Contact:** Be sure to call (530) 622-5061 or refer to the Eldorado National Forest Web Site [www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado](http://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado) for latest road closure status prior to driving on any non-paved road.

### What Is A Cord Of Wood?

A cord of wood is a well-stacked pile of wood which measures 4x4x8 feet. Multiplying Length X Height X Depth of the pile gives 128 cubic feet. Your transportation tags are valued at 1/4 of a cord, which is 32 cubic feet. When your wood is loaded, multiply to find out how many cubic feet you are carrying, and attach the correct number of tags. If you are over 1/4 cord (or multiple), but under the next 1/4, you must add the extra tag.



## Obtaining A Permit

You may obtain a permit in person at any of the Ranger District Offices. To obtain a permit by mail download the application form from [www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado](http://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado) and mail.

**You will be issued four items:** They are all considered to be part of your permit.

- 1) The permit.
- 2) Firewood Conditions attachment which has the Product Quantity Removal Record. **You are required to** write in ink the load ticket numbers on the record form along with the date, time, number of cords and your signature before you move any wood, even if you have not finished a complete load.
- 3) Motor Vehicle Use Map.
- 4) Transportation (load) tickets appropriate for the number of cords you purchase. Each ticket is meant for transporting 1/4 of a cord of wood, or less. Please do not lose the tickets, as they will not be replaced. If you are unable to use them before December 31, they will no longer be useable. A different color will be used for the next year. Punch hole for month and day and attach to load.

**Note:** If more than one vehicle will be hauling wood at a time, be sure that one party has the permit and that all loads have completed tickets attached. The vehicles shall stay together during travel since the load, tickets, and permit may be inspected.

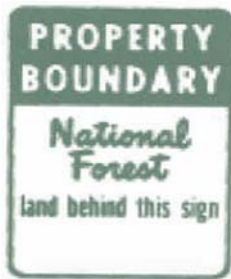
## Equipment Requirements & Safety

A chainsaw inspection is not necessary to obtain a woodcutting permit. It is your responsibility to make sure your saw has a properly operating spark arrestor system as required by state law. A working fire extinguisher or shovel are required while woodcutting.

A first-aid kit, gloves, and safety glasses are recommended for a safe outing. In addition to a chainsaw, maul, splitting wedges, and cable or chain, a well-equipped tool box is recommended.

## Where May I Cut?

You must be on Eldorado National Forest land. It is your responsibility to determine where you are cutting. Always be alert for property boundary signs.



This is a K-tag or location poster that can be found in the forest. A nail or tack stuck in a yellow location poster shows your location in the forest. Forest Service maps are marked with the corresponding legal subdivisions.

In this example: T11N, R15E, Section 1.



## Permit Offices

### Placerville Ranger District

7 ½ miles east of Placerville  
on Highway 50 – Cedar Grove exit #54  
4260 Eight Mile Road  
Camino, CA 95709  
(530) 644-2324

### Pacific Ranger District

16 miles east of Placerville  
on Highway 50 – Mill Run Road  
7887 Highway 50  
Pollock Pines, CA 95726  
(530) 644-2349

### Georgetown Ranger District

3 miles east of Georgetown  
on Wentworth Springs Road  
7600 Wentworth Springs Road  
Georgetown, CA 95634  
(530) 333-4312

### Amador Ranger District

17 miles east of Jackson  
on Highway 88  
26820 Silver Drive  
Pioneer, CA 95666  
(209) 295-4251



### Do Not Cut In:

- ♦ Areas signed NO WOODCUTTING.
- ♦ Areas designated closed; such as, wilderness areas and administrative sites.
- ♦ Campgrounds or within 150 yards of campgrounds, developed recreations sites or buildings.
- ♦ Active Timber sales (look for signs).
- ♦ Private or other non-National Forest lands.
- ♦ Designated Sensitive areas.
- ♦ Some areas may be closed under emergency conditions in order to minimize conflicts with other uses or to reduce resource damage.